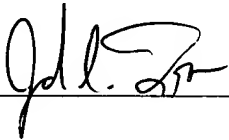


Dear Sir:

A Notice of Allowance for the above-mentioned application was mailed on May 18, 2005 that presented a statement of reasons for the allowance of the claims. Applicants traverse the statement in that there are broader and/or other reasons why the claims are allowable over the prior art. Furthermore, Applicants traverse the statement in that it infers limitations in independent claim 3 that are not present therein.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Freeman", is written over a horizontal line.

John C. Freeman  
Registration No. 34,483  
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER  
GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, Illinois 60610  
(312) 321-4200

Dated: August 9, 2005

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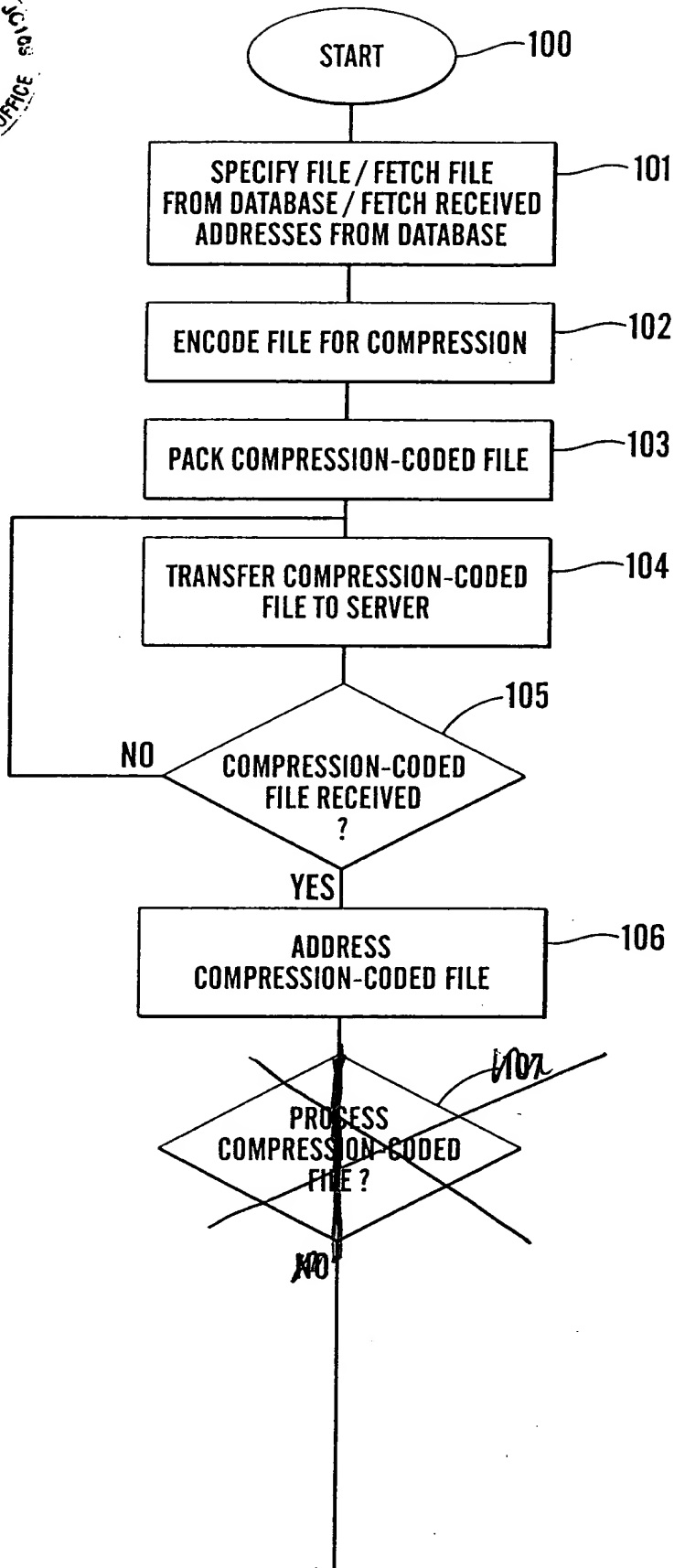
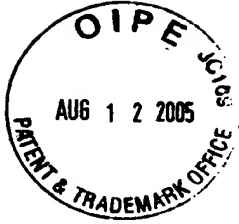


Fig.3

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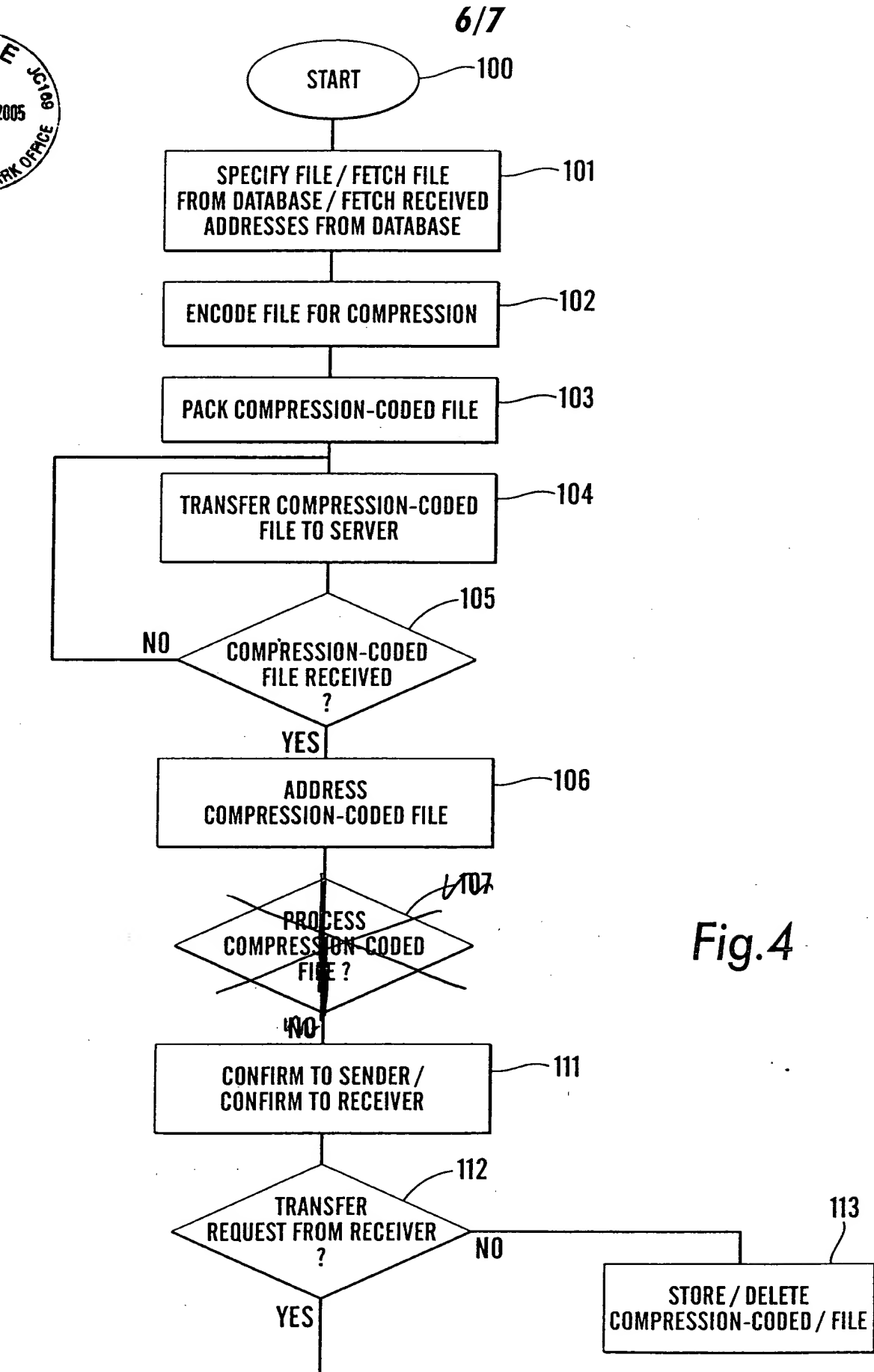


Fig. 4